

MINUTES  
MALIBU HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 21, 2022  
TELECONFERENCED – VARIOUS LOCATIONS  
2:00 P.M.

**The following meeting was held pursuant to AB 361 and fully teleconferenced from various locations during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Roven called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance via teleconference by the Recording Secretary:

PRESENT: Chair Ian Roven; Vice Chair Bill Winokur; and Task Force Members Deborah Benton, Wayne Cohen, Paul Davis, Terry Davis, Scott Dittrich, Kelly Pessis, and Bill Sampson

ABSENT: Task Force Member Chris Frost

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Manager; Luis Flores, Public Safety Liaison; Gabe Etcheverry, Fire Safety Liaison; Captain Jennifer Seetoo, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Parker Davis, Media Technician; and Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Captain Seetoo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Task Force Member Terry Davis moved and Task Force Member Dittrich seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called, and the motion carried 9-0, Task Force Member Frost absent.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Executive Assistant Linden reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on June 16, 2022.

ITEM 1 CEREMONIAL/PRESENTATIONS

None.

ITEM 2.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2.B. STAFF UPDATES

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the contract with The People Concern was scheduled for approval at the June 27 City Council meeting. She explained the bid process. In response to Task Force Member Terry Davis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas named the applicants.

ITEM 2.C. TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS

Task Force Member Pessis stated she would present a report from the Fire, Health and Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee at the next meeting. She explained boondocking.

ITEM 3 CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION Task Force Member Terry Davis moved and Vice Chair Winokur seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called, and the motion carried 9-0, Task Force Member Frost absent.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

A. Previously Discussed Items

None.

B. New Items

1. Approval of Minutes – May 17, 2022

Staff recommendation: Approve minutes for the Homelessness Task Force Regular meeting of May 17, 2022.

ITEM 4 OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 5 NEW BUSINESS

A. Fire, Health, and Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee Appointment

Recommended Action: Appoint Task Force Member Terry Davis to the Fire, Health, and Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee.

MOTION Task Force Member Terry Davis moved and Vice Chair Winokur seconded a motion to appoint Task Force Member Terry Davis to the Fire, Health, and Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee. The question was called, and the motion carried 9-0, Task Force Member Frost absent.

B. Current Efforts to Address Homelessness in Malibu

Recommended Action: 1) Review current efforts to address homelessness in the City; and 2) Identify potential strategies to improve service provisions in accordance with the Homelessness Task Force Charter and City Council direction.

Public Safety Liaison Flores presented the report. He welcomed Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Captain Jennifer Seetoo.

Captain Seetoo discussed the work of the LASD Homeless Outreach Services Team (HOST). She stated she requested HOST clear the canyons over the summer, and HOST reported Las Tunas Canyon was completed cleaned out. She stated HOST would conduct an operation with deputies to address recreational vehicles (RV) along Pacific Coast Highway (PCH). She invited Task Force Members to join her and HOST members on a hike in the canyons. She stated she would do a ride-along with Malibu Volunteers on Patrol (VOP) members Mark Russo and Bill Melcher to observe issues at night.

Public Safety Liaison Flores stated he would join Captain Seetoo on the hike to get a better understanding of the issues. He agreed it would be beneficial for Task Force Members to join as well.

Task Force Member Terry Davis welcomed Captain Seetoo. She discussed the work of the LASD Mental Evaluation Team (MET). She stated the City and its partners are doing a lot. She discussed the upcoming Connect Day. She suggested focusing on services that are needed today versus five years ago. She stated many of the basic services no longer necessary are a testament to what has been done. She stated a good mode of communication between the various service providers is still needed. She stated she was very proud of what Malibu has done.

Task Force Member Pessis stated uniformity of reporting was important. She stated finding a solution to reduce pedestrian deaths was important. In response to Task Force Member Pessis, Captain Seetoo stated it was discussed with City Department Heads. She discussed LASD monthly crime management forums that evaluated how issues are addressed. She discussed how fatalities on PCH were currently being evaluated.

Chair Roven left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Task Force Member Dittrich asked if the number of people being fed had decreased. Public Safety Liaison Flores stated servers at the Methodist Church indicated numbers were lower recently but were mostly consistent with the past.

Task Force Member Terry Davis stated Malibu CART (Community Assistance Resource Team) was serving similar numbers as in the past, but the numbers fluctuated.

Task Force Member Dittrich expressed interest in taking the hike with Captain Seetoo and HOST in July.

Task Force Member Cohen suggested also considering locations of near misses on PCH due to dangerous crossing spots. He stated he noticed more cars than ever parked on PCH between Trancas Canyon and Broad Beach.

Vice Chair Winokur asked if the RV situation or people sleeping in cars could be placed on an upcoming agenda. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the City has several ordinances in place that the Sheriff's Department enforced. Public Safety Liaison Flores stated he checks regularly with Deputy Espinosa and he would share that location.

Chair Roven returned to the meeting at 2:43 p.m.

In response to Task Force Member Cohen, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated a sign was not required at every location for the ordinances to be enforced. Task Force Member Cohen stated he had reported the parked vehicles to the Lost Hills Station many times.

Captain Seetoo stated many vehicles move then to avoid violation of the ordinance. She stated she was working with the deputies and VOP to enforce the ordinances.

Vice Chair Winokur thanked Captain Seetoo and LASD for all they do. He stated signs would not always stop people from trying to cross PCH. He stated it was important to not lose sight of what the community needs in addition to what the homeless need. He discussed an article about RV encampments in Portland and services provided there.

Task Force Member Terry Davis agreed with Vice Chair Winokur about remembering the community's needs. She stated there were vehicle dwellers who receive services but had nowhere to go. She discussed Safe Parking Programs. She stated that, in many cases, services were offered and, if not accepted, the individuals would be asked to move on.

Task Force Member Sampson asked about the limit on parking spaces on PCH above Broad Beach. Captain Seetoo stated there were two hours overnight that a car had to move. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the times differed on the northbound and southbound sides of the highway. She stated there were challenges with enforcement. She discussed the Coastal Commission's blocking of ordinances proposed in the past.

In response to Task Force Member Cohen, Executive Assistant Linden stated she would provide copies of the City's ordinances restricting parking on PCH to the Task Force members.

Task Force Member Pessis stated similar situations were occurring on other stretches of PCH. In response to Task Force Member Pessis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas confirmed the restricted parking ordinances applied to all vehicles. She stated there needed to be signage and enforcement to send a message.

Vice Chair Dittrich asked if liquor stores could be asked to stop selling to transients. Chair Roven stated that could be perceived as government overreach in telling businesses who they can or cannot serve.

In response to Task Force Member Dittrich, Public Safety Liaison Flores discussed requirements for families to go to a family-based shelter.

MOTION Task Force Member Pessis moved and Task Force Member Dittrich seconded a motion to direct the Legal Analysis Ad Hoc Committee to review the City's restricted parking ordinances and report back to the Task Force. The question was called, and the motion carried 9-0, Task Force Member Frost absent.

Captain Seetoo requested any areas to be looked at by deputies should be texted to Task Force Member Frost.

C. Public Engagement and Outreach Plan

Recommended Action: 1) Establish a Public Engagement and Outreach Plan or Public Outreach and Mitigation Ad Hoc Committee; 2) Determine assignments for the committee; and 3) Appoint no more than five Task Force Members to serve on the committee.

Public Safety Liaison Flores presented the report.

Task Force Member Pessis stated public outreach was going to be part of the Fire, Health and Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee report presented at the July meeting.

Task Force Member Paul Davis suggested waiting until July when the new Task Force Member was present. He announced he was resigning from the Task Force effective tomorrow. He expressed gratitude to all the Homelessness Task Force members for their efforts.

The Task Force members thanked Task Force Member Paul Davis for his years of service to Malibu.

MOTION Task Force Member Terry Davis moved and Chair Roven seconded a motion to continue the item to the July 19, 2022 meeting. The question was called, and the motion carried 9-0, Task Force Member Frost absent.

D. Future Agenda Items

Recommended Action: Review items tentatively scheduled for upcoming meeting agendas and provide feedback to staff.

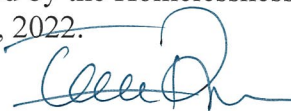
In response to Task Force Member Terry Davis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the item to discuss accessing beds was moved to the July 11 City Council meeting. She discussed the potential need for a request for proposals (RFP). Task Force Member Terry Davis asked if beds could be acquired at any The People Concern-affiliated facilities in Santa Monica. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated there were no open beds available at this time.

Task Force Member Dittrich requested a follow-up report on PCH fatalities from Captain Seetoo. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated she would discuss it with Captain Seetoo. She suggested it might be better to place it on the August agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 3:33 p.m., Chair Roven adjourned the meeting.

Approved and adopted by the Homelessness Task Force of the City of Malibu on July 19, 2022.



IAN ROVEN, Chair

ATTEST:

  
MARY LINDEN, Executive Assistant